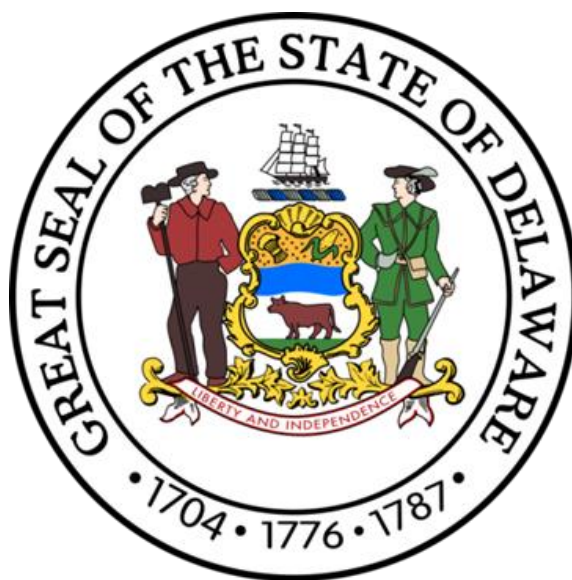


Shooting Incidents in Delaware

Mapping Supplement for the 2018 Statewide Report



December 2019

State of Delaware
Criminal Justice Council
Statistical Analysis Center
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Overview

This document contains maps of Delaware shooting incidents for 2017 and 2018. These maps are intended to supplement the detailed information provided in the 2017 and 2018 version of *Delaware Shootings: An Analysis of Incidents, Suspects, and Victims*. (available at <https://sac.delaware.gov/crime/>).

The maps included in this supplement cover the entire State of Delaware, New Castle, Kent, and Sussex Counties, and the cities of Wilmington and Dover. These maps distinguish between fatal and non-fatal incidents and between those with a single victim and those with multiple victims. The resolution provides enough information to determine relative incident locations without compromising victim and witness privacy issues.

Mapping Methodology

Once the final set of shooting incidents for the year was identified, complaint numbers and incident characteristic information (fatality versus non-fatality, number of victims) was extracted from each respective database. Complaint numbers were used to query location information from the Delaware Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS).

With the location information available, shooting incidents were plotted on a map of Delaware using the software ArcGIS Pro developed by ESRI. The resulting map plots were reviewed for accuracy (for locations that appear outside of Delaware indicating inaccurate location data, etc.) The shooting circumstance information (fatal/non-fatal and number of victims) was then used to categorize each shooting in one of five categories: Non-Fatal/1 Victim, Non-Fatal/2+ Victims, Fatal/1 Victim, Fatal/Others Injured, and Multiple Fatal. Each category was given a distinct mapping symbol for clarity.

Once all shooting incidents were identified and categorized, the various maps were then created and exported for inclusion into this supplement.

Limitations & Considerations

The maps in this supplement do not cover all instances where a gun was involved or where shots have been fired. Also, shooting-related injuries or deaths due to accidental or self-inflicted discharges were not included in the mapping data set. This supplement specifically examines non-accidental criminal shootings that resulted in the injury or death of another person.

Incident location data in CJIS does not always reflect the true location of an incident. In some circumstances police officers are unable to locate a physical scene and must determine the approximate location based on victim and witness statements. Due to the nature of some shootings, such as those involving drugs or gang-related activity, a victim or witness may not be forthcoming and give accurate location information. In these instances, police officers must estimate the location where the shooting most likely took place based on the totality of evidence (i.e. witness and victim statements, 911 calls, data from video cameras and other means of surveillance.)

Points of Interest

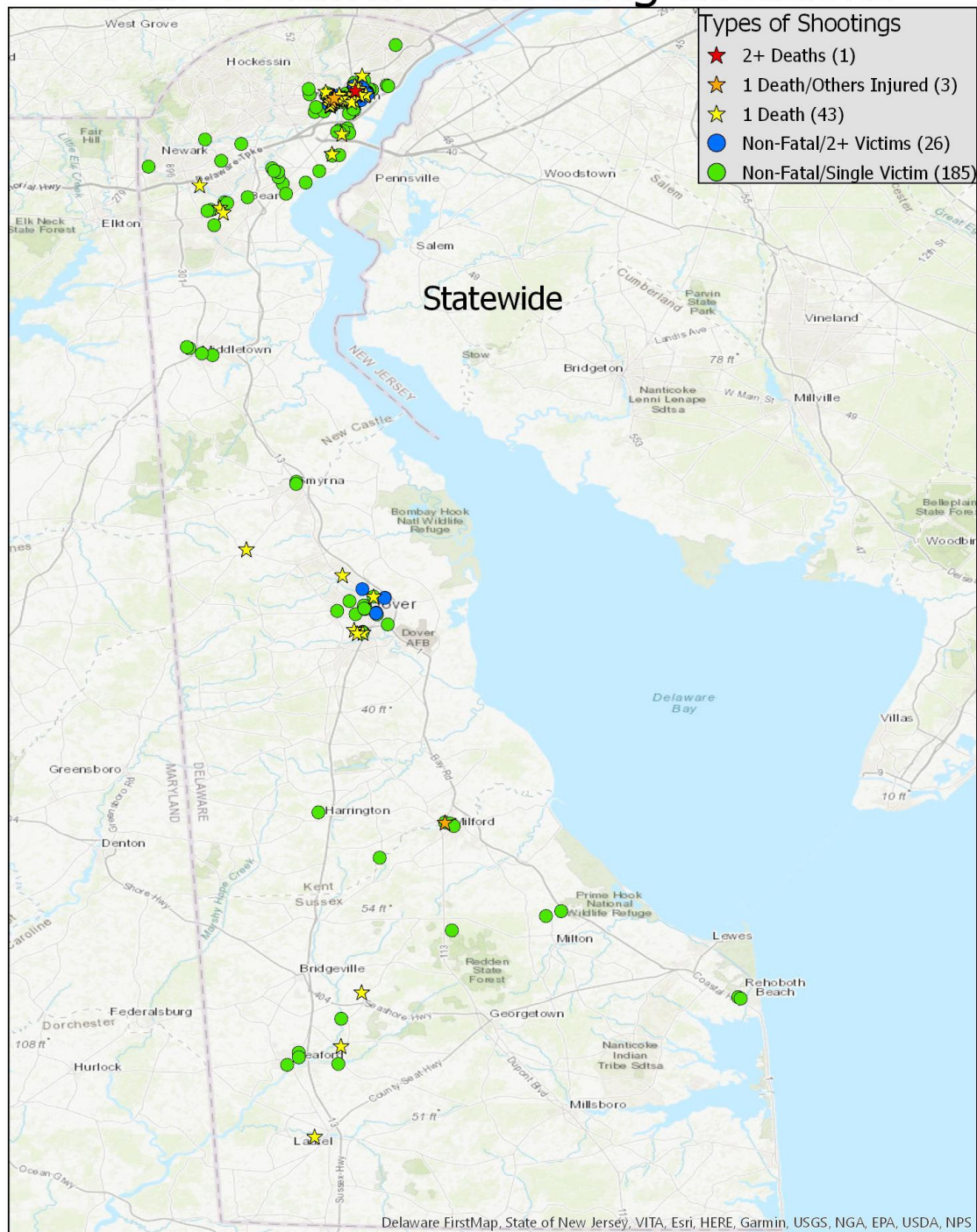
The State of Delaware saw shooting incidents at a record low in 2018 (144) after setting a record high in 2017 (258). This pattern was most apparent in the city of Wilmington which saw 167 shooting incidents in 2017 but only 75 in 2018. Shootings still tended to be roughly clustered in certain areas of the city as seen in the 2017 and 2018 maps below.

In New Castle County, Wilmington incidents continued to dominate the map. There was a small cluster of multiple fatality shootings to the west of Wilmington and a small cluster near the Brookside area to the western side of New Castle County.

In Kent County, most incidents occurred inside or near the city of Dover. Shootings, both fatal and non-fatal appeared sporadically outside of the immediate Dover area.

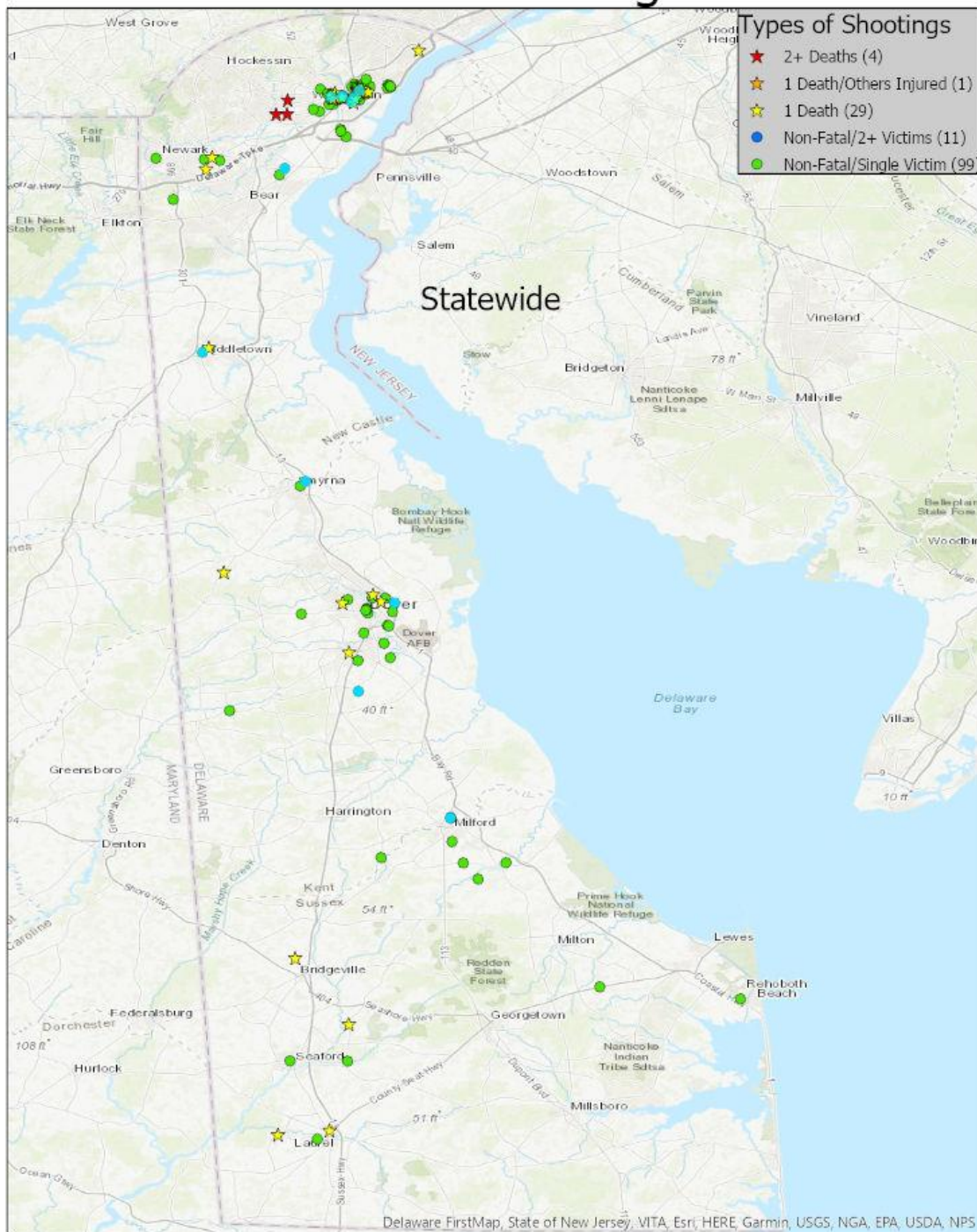
Much like Kent County, Sussex County accounted for a relatively small number of overall shootings in 2018. Shootings in Sussex county were spread across the county with limited or no noticeable clustering.

2017 Delaware Shooting Locations



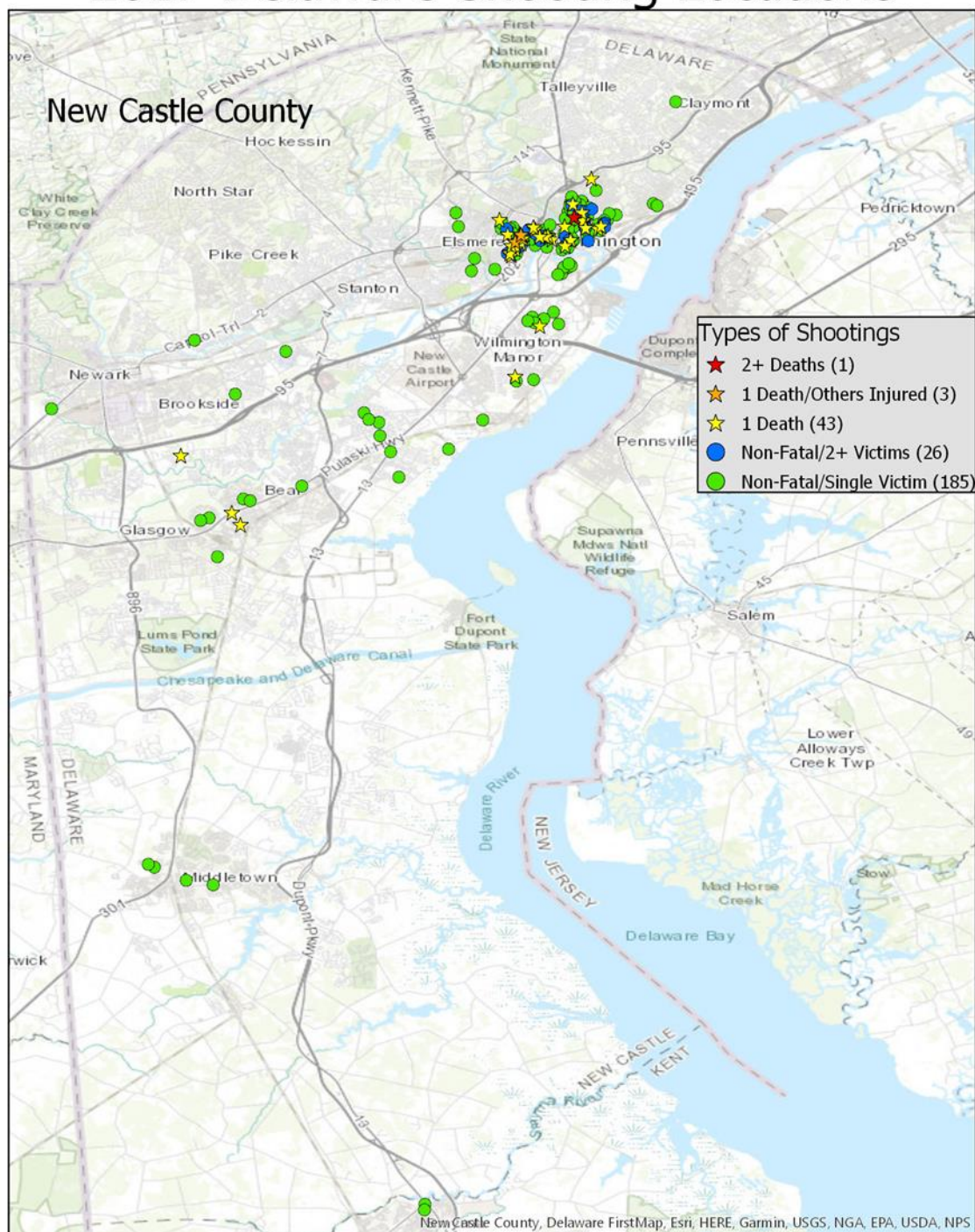
Statewide

2018 Delaware Shooting Locations



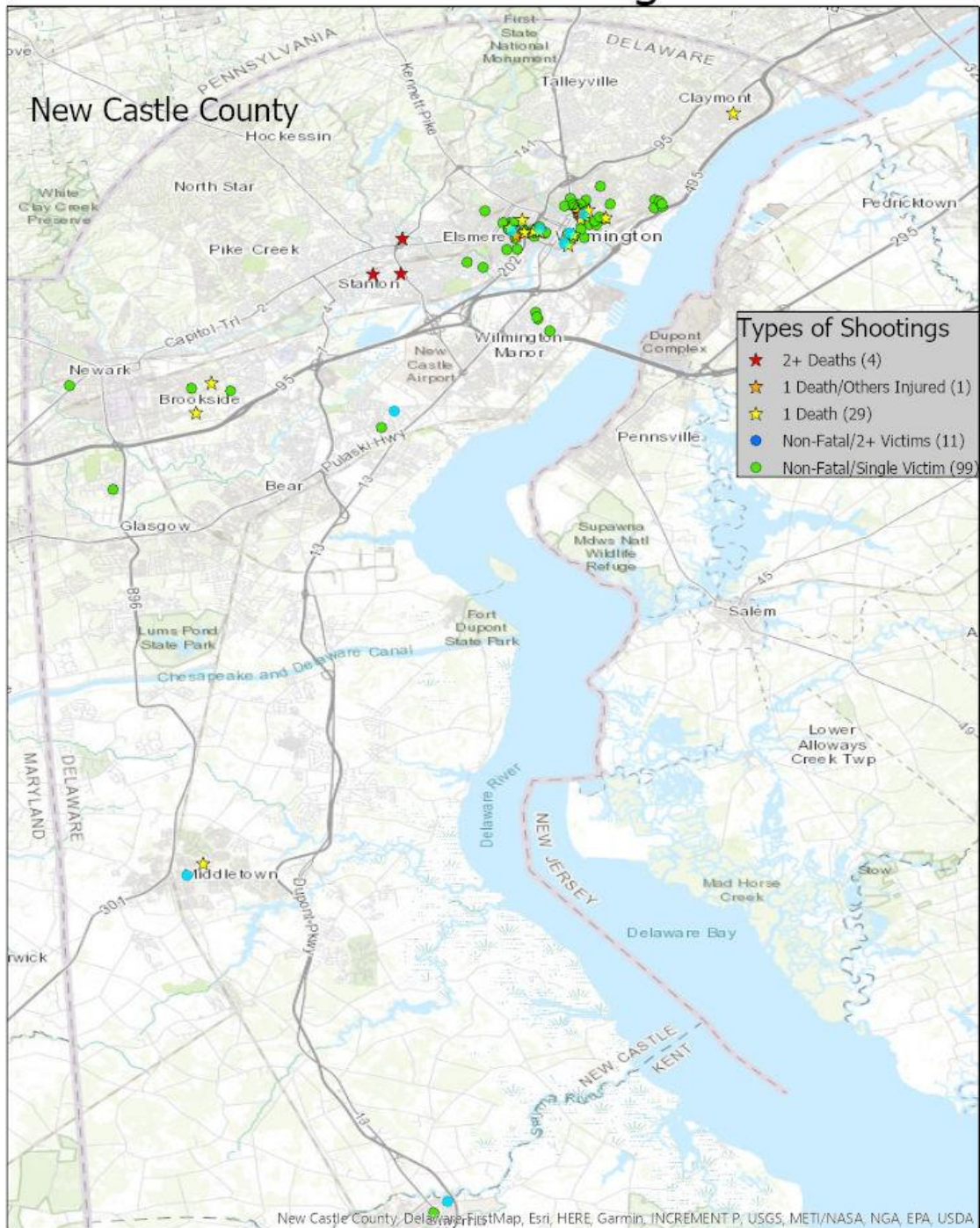
Statewide

2017 Delaware Shooting Locations



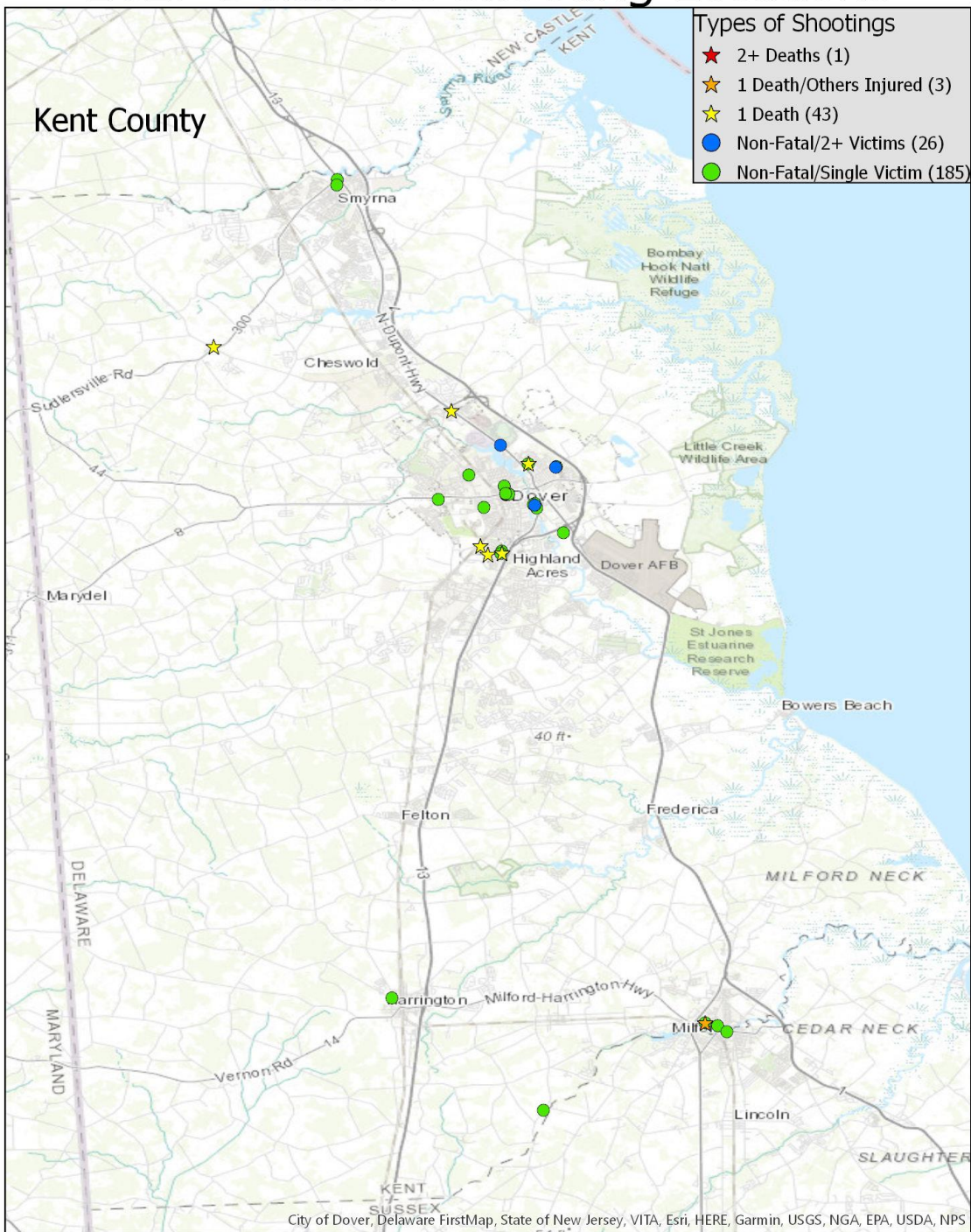
New Castle County

2018 Delaware Shooting Locations



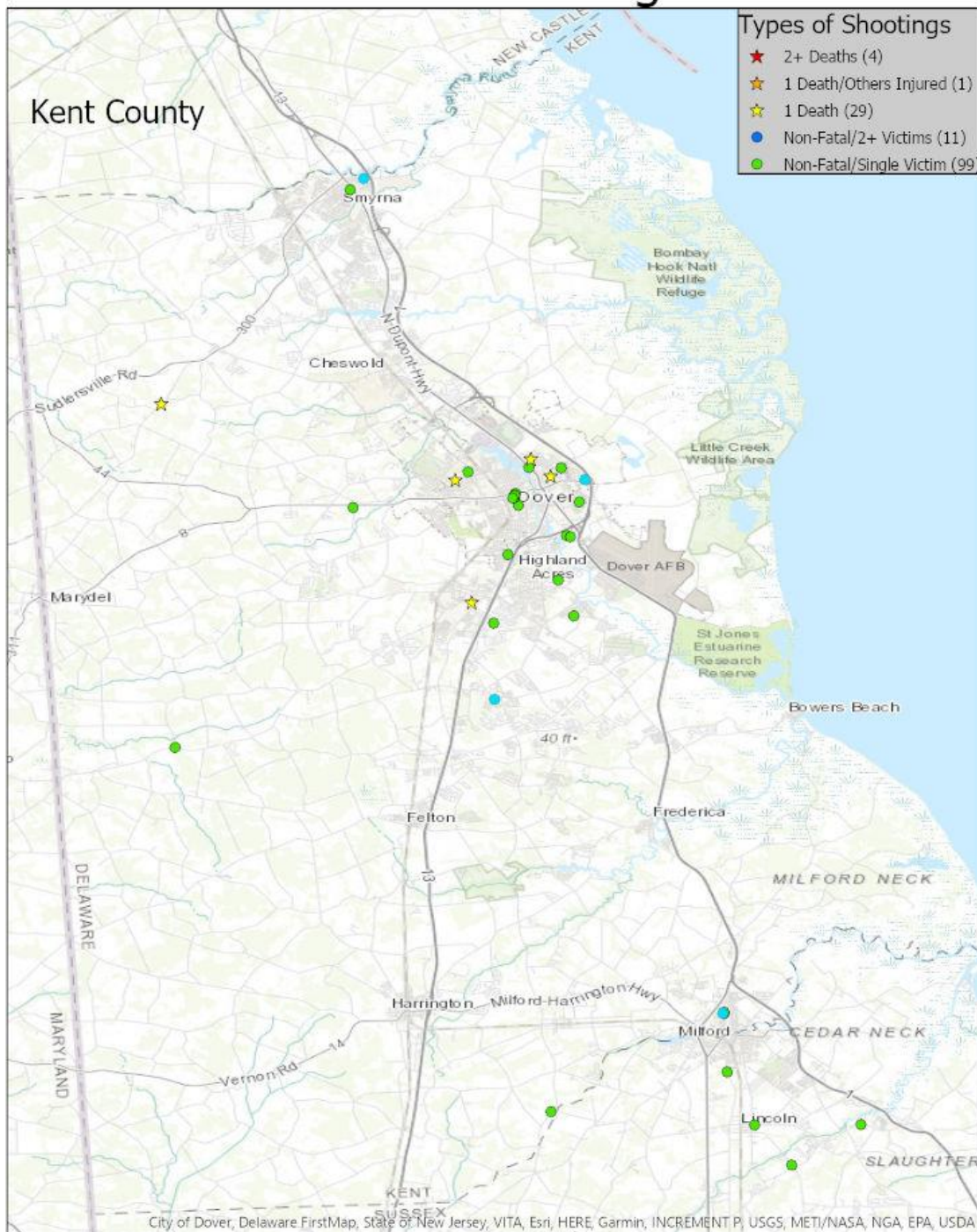
New Castle County

2017 Delaware Shooting Locations



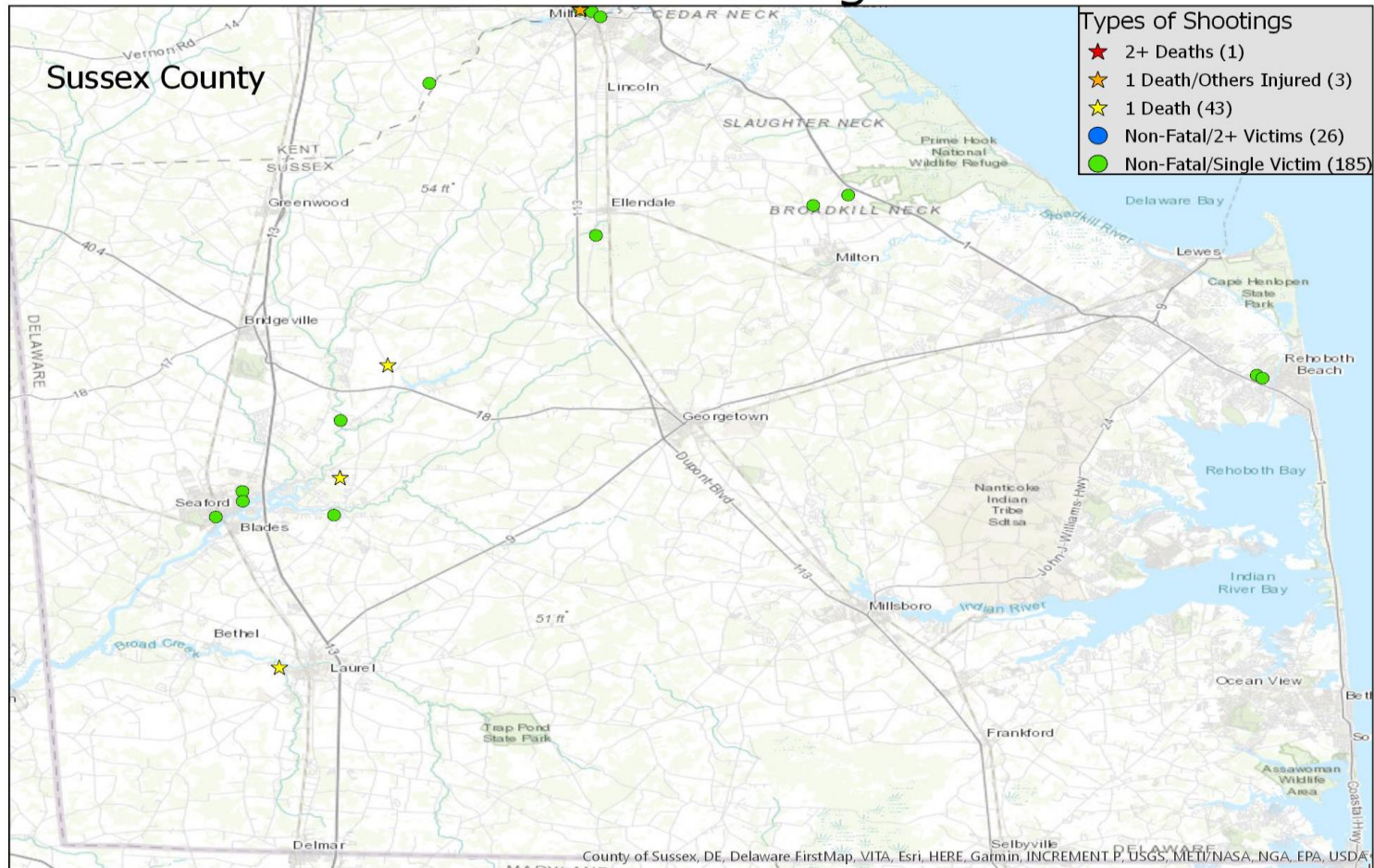
Kent County

2018 Delaware Shooting Locations



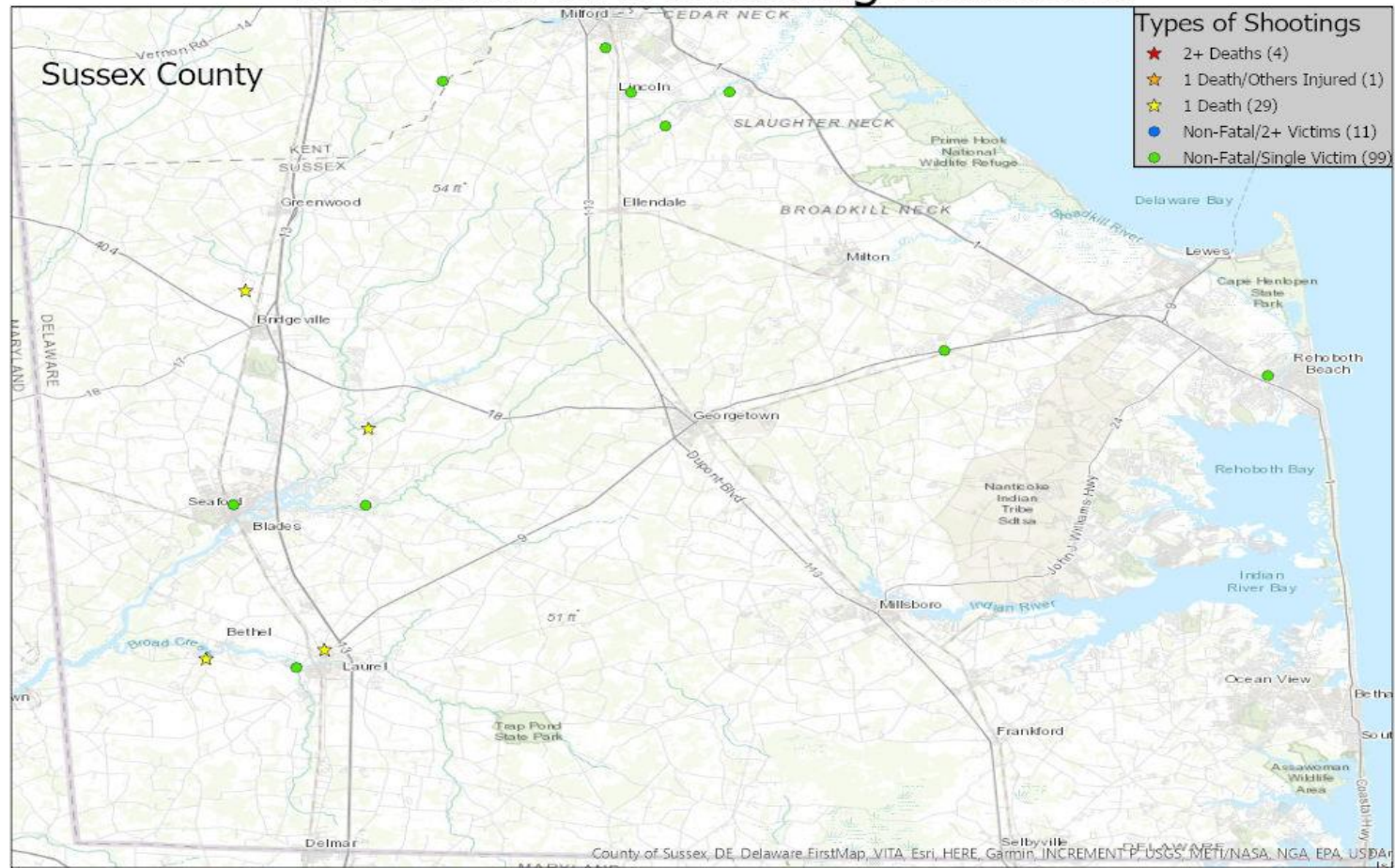
Kent County

2017 Delaware Shooting Locations



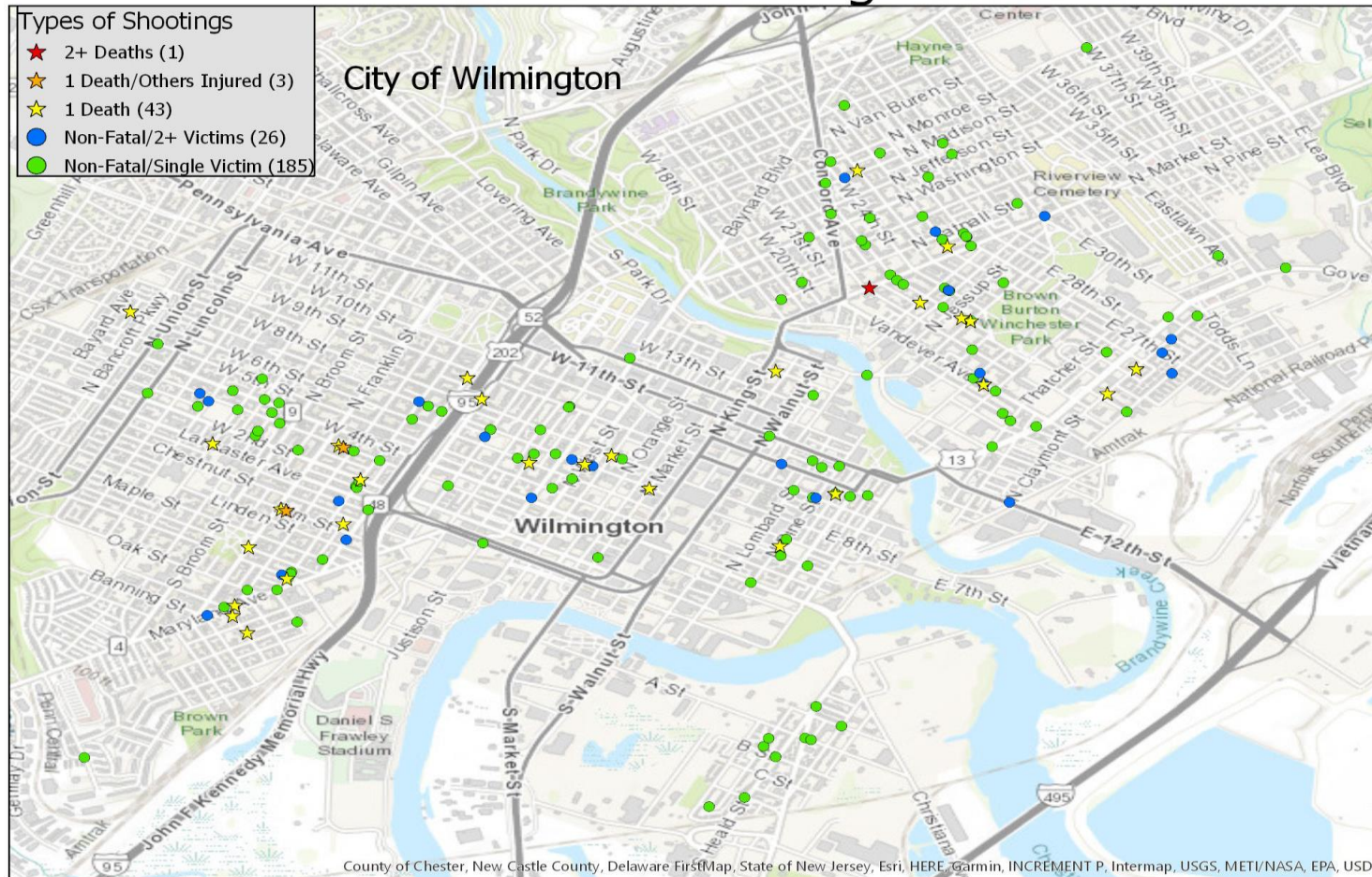
Sussex County

2018 Delaware Shooting Locations



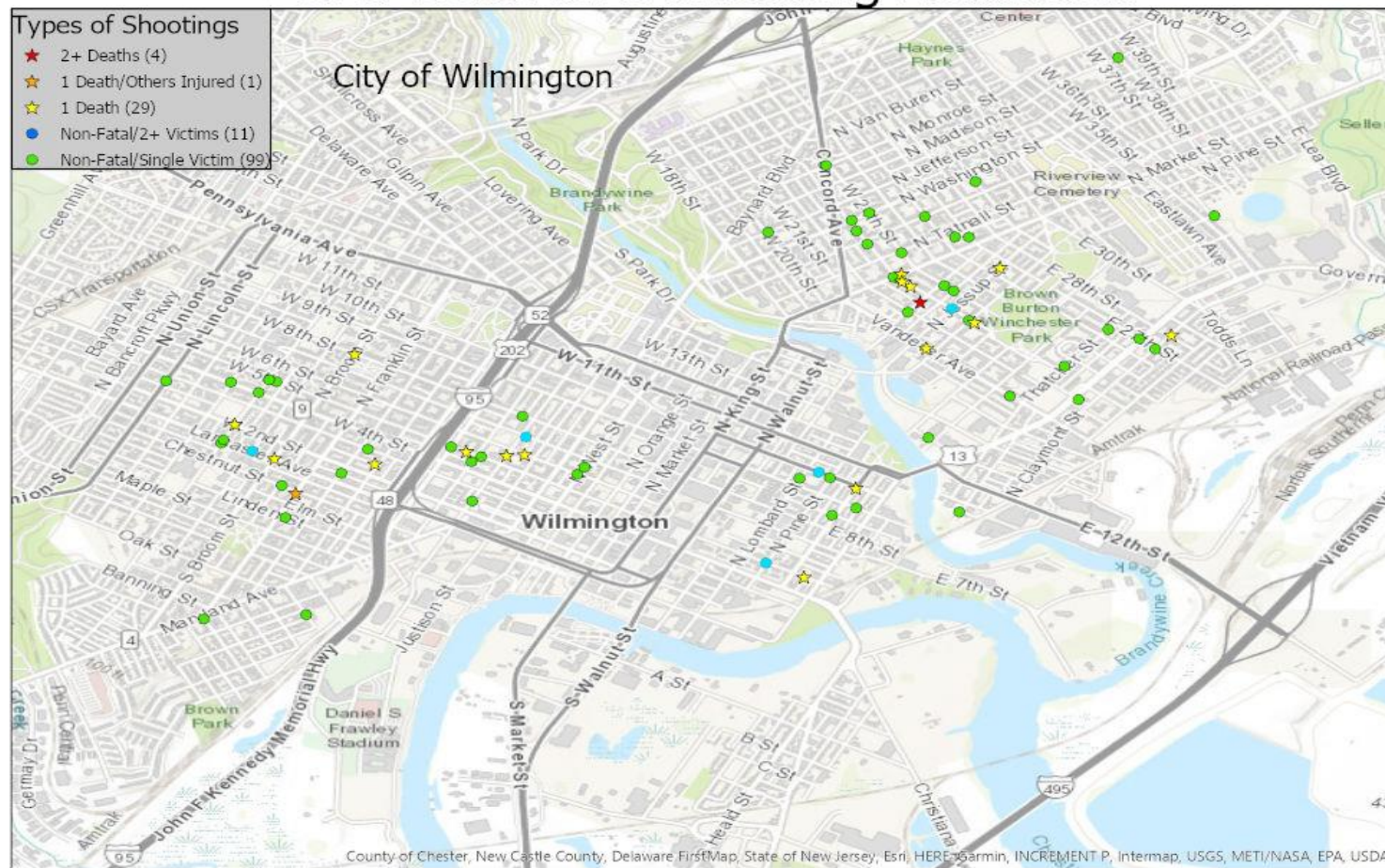
Sussex County

2017 Delaware Shooting Locations



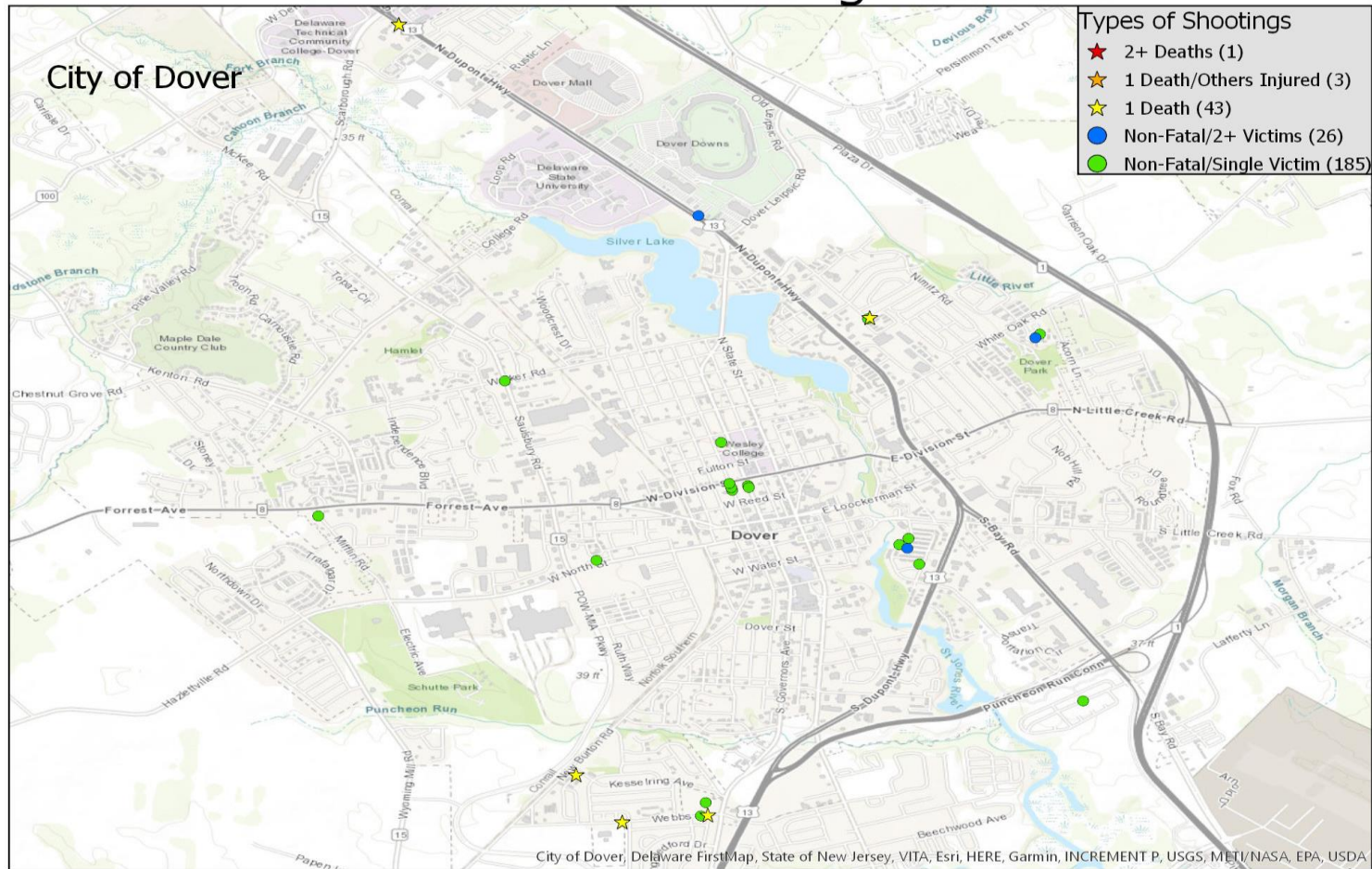
City of Wilmington

2018 Delaware Shooting Locations



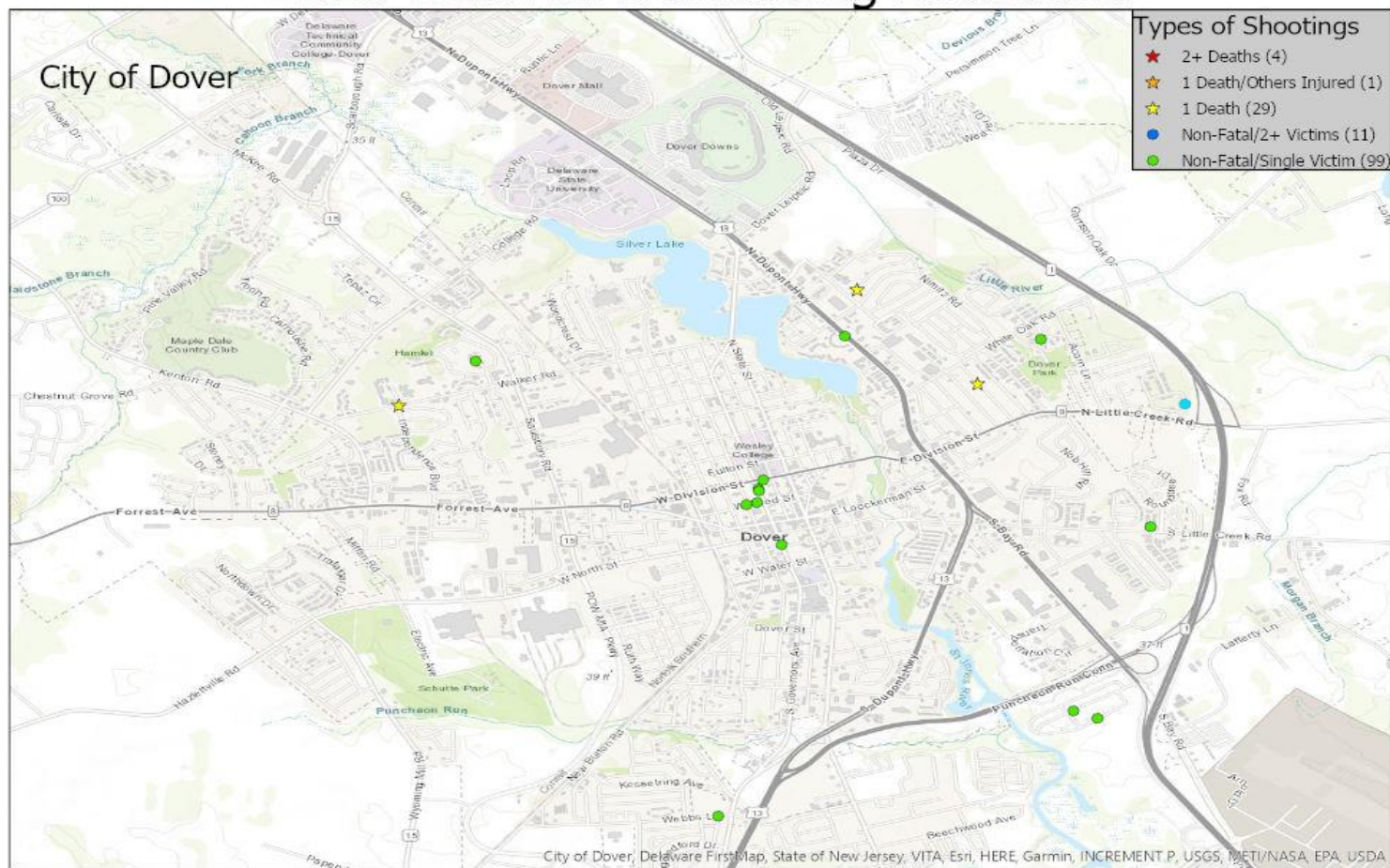
City of Wilmington

2017 Delaware Shooting Locations



City of Dover

2018 Delaware Shooting Locations



City of Dover